

**Bishop J. W. Alstork,  
D.D., LL.D.**

**A. M. E. Zion Church**

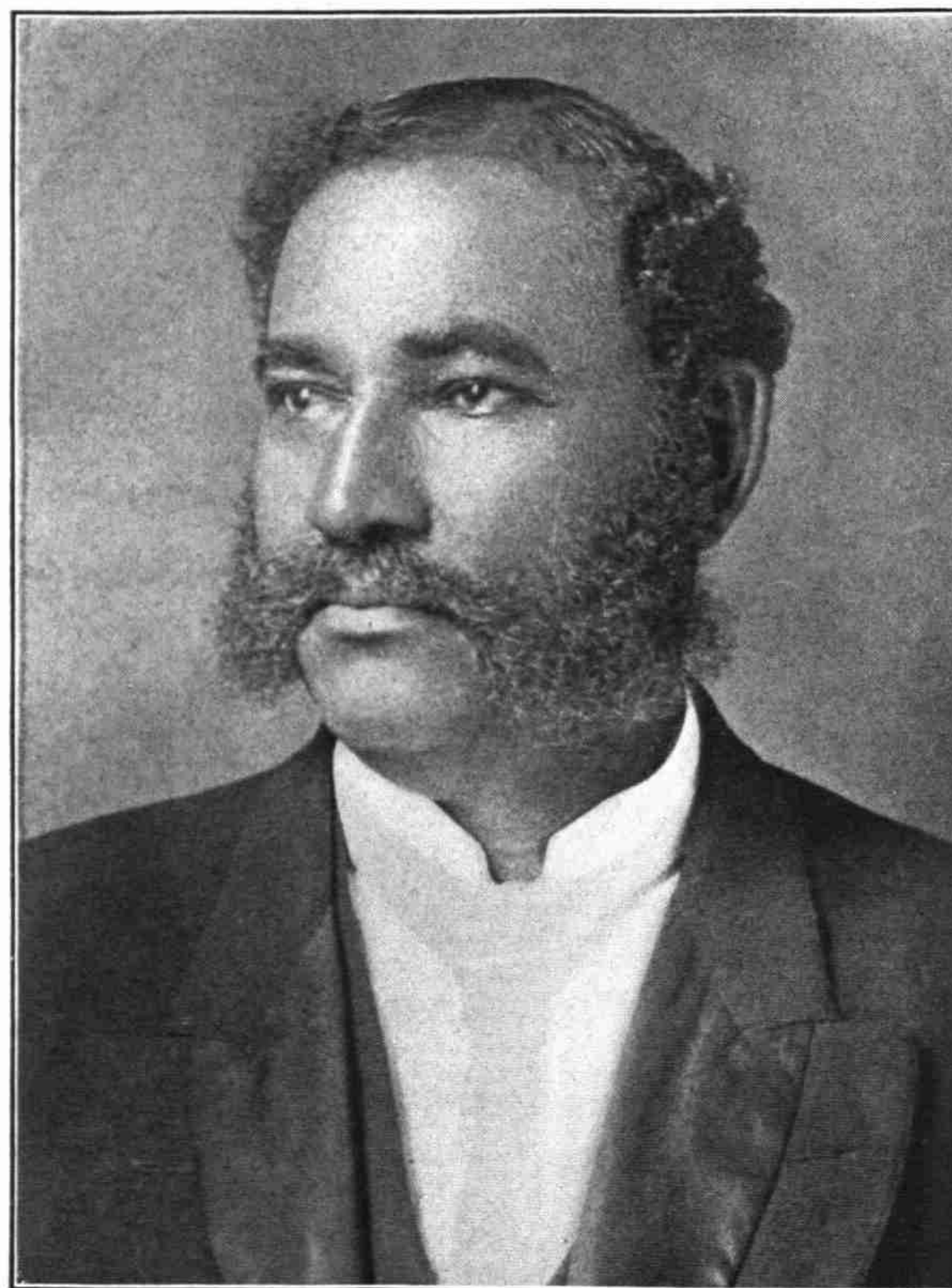
**Residence: Montgomery, Alabama**

BISHOP ALSTORK presides over the Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi conferences. He was born in Talladega, Ala., September 1, 1852. He studied at night schools and worked on the railroad during the day as brakeman, baggageman, warehouse man, cotton marker, and sampler. Later, he attended Talladega College and then taught school.

He was called to the ministry in 1878, and after completing his theological course, in 1882, was appointed to some of the strong churches of the denomination. He was financial secretary for his conference for eight years, and was then elected financial secretary for the entire connection, in which position he served eight years. He was presiding elder eleven years, and in 1900 was elected bishop at the General Conference, in Washington. Livingstone College gave him the degree of D.D. in 1892, and Princeton Indiana University conferred the degree of LL.D in 1908.

He was the founder, in 1898, of Lomax-Hannon High and Industrial Institute, at Greenville, Ala., and is chairman of the board of trustees. He is also trustee of Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C., and of Landgridge Academy. He was a member of the board of trustees of the State Normal School. He is National Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons (Colored).

The bishop is an active, aggressive worker for the advancement of the race, especially interested in the moral development of his people. He emphasizes the need of industrial training.



BISHOP JOHN WESLEY ALSTORK, D.D., LL.D.

**Greatest Needs of the Negro Race**

**Bishop J. W. Alstork, D.D., LL.D.**

THE first great need of the Negro race is a clear understanding of the Bible and its teachings. Upon this knowledge of the Holy Scriptures we may build character for service.

We need the help of all white people who are interested in good morals, as we try to help ourselves. We need to separate ourselves from that class of our people who seem determined to keep upon the lowest plane. There are many who judge the race by the attitude and condition of those careless, indifferent ones who do not manifest any ambition for progress along religious, moral, or even material lines.

We need to impress upon the white people the fact that there are thousands who are reaching out for better living, for clean living, and that they ought to be encouraged in this desire and conduct. In a certain city, houses of ill-repute are put in a section where some of the best colored people live, and where their children are compelled to gaze upon the obscenity of this lewd class of white people, and cannot help themselves. When the mayor of the city was appealed to, he said to the complainant, "If you do not like it, you can sell out and move to another part of the town."

If it were not for a few white friends we have, I don't know what would become of us. It would help wonderfully, from a moral point of view, if, when we are trying to separate ourselves from the moral evils which are so contaminating, all the better class of white people would encourage us.

We need a longer common school term, with better paid teachers. We feel that if the teachers receive better

pay, they will be more interested in their work.

As a people, we will work as earnestly and heartily as possible to bring about good results, and we will do all in our power to aid the schools that are doing so much for our people, fitting the young men and young women to be of service.

**Bishop C. R. Harris, D.D.**

**A. M. E. Zion Church**

**Residence: Salisbury, N. C.**

BISHOP HARRIS presides over the Blue Ridge, Western New York, and South Florida conferences. He was born in Fayetteville, N. C., August 25, 1844. His father died when he was three years old, and three years later the family moved to Ohio. The young man received his education in the public schools of Ohio, graduating from the Cleveland High School in 1861.

In 1863, he became a member of the American Wesleyan Church, in Cleveland. In 1867, he transferred his membership to the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church at Fayetteville, N. C. In 1866 he was employed by the American Missionary Association as a teacher in Fayetteville. In 1872, he was ordained a deacon in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Conference and became